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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

IO/MPR (BRIAN G. HACKETT), USUN/MR (EUGENE CHEN, CHERITH
NORMAN, AND BRUCE RASHKOW)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AORC](#) [UNGA](#) [UNGA](#)

SUBJECT: 64TH UNGA CANDIDATE INFORMATION: JOINT INSPECTION
UNIT, JOSE CAPEL FERRER

REF: SECSTATE 105347

11. (U) Spain requests USG support for Spanish candidate Jose Capel Ferrer to the UN Joint Inspection Unit. The Office of the UN and Multilateral Organizations within the Spanish MFA provided the following information in support of Spain's candidate. Capel Ferrer has an advanced degree in civil engineering and more than 30 years of professional experience in the field of transportation. From 1991 until 2007, Capel Ferrer served as Director of the Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), leading a staff of 40 for the secretariat and responsible for the administration and promotion of a large number of international legal instruments and recommendations in the transportation arena. During his time in office, Capel Ferrer helped strengthen the set of international legal instruments under his responsibility: 8 new legal instruments were adopted and over 600 new accessions of Member States to existing instruments were registered. He promoted inter-country cooperation projects in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia and encouraged greater cooperation with other UN organs and information-sharing within the organization, with the EU, and with the OSCE.

12. (U) Since September 2007, Capel Ferrer has served as Director for European Affairs at the Administration of Railway Infrastructure, a Spanish public entity. As chief inspector and director of the organization, Capel Ferrer oversees two European Economic Interest Groupings (EEIGs), conducting evaluations, inspections, and investigations on the groupings' success in achieving their governance responsibilities with respect to management performance, budgetary control, and other administrative and financial issues. Capel Ferrer has also been elected Vice President of the Transport Committee of the European Center of Public Enterprises (CEEP), an organization recognized as a Social Partner by the European Commission, and is by delegation, a member of the Administration Council of the Center.

13. (U) Prior to 1991, Capel Ferrer served as Advisor to the President of the International Union of Railways, Director of the Spanish Railways for Europe, member of the Governing Council of the Official Chamber of Commerce of Spain in Paris, elected member of the Governing Council of the Association of Chartered Civil Engineers of Spain, and professor at Polytechnic University in Madrid.

14. (SBU) Independent inquiries revealed no disqualifying information. By all accounts, Capel Ferrer is described as an expert in transport issues, specifically with respect to infrastructure, safety, environmental impact, inter-modality, and border-crossing issues. His extensive experience and successes within the UNECE would suggest that he is qualified to serve in the external oversight body. He is fluent in Spanish (mother tongue), English, and French.

